

Appl. No. 09/714,785  
Amtd. dated June 27, 2003  
Reply to Office Action of April 9, 2003

PATENT

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings of claims in the application:

Amendment to the Claims:

Please amend claims 1-19 and 24, cancel claims 20-23 and 25-31 without prejudice, and add new claims 32-38 as shown below.

SUB B17

1 1. (Currently Amended) A visitor information gathering apparatus,  
2 comprising:  
3 a display;  
4 ~~at least one of a plurality of one or more~~ input devices;  
5 a storage;  
6 a processor; and  
7 ~~at least one of a plurality of one or more~~ sensors, wherein  
8 ~~wherein said processor is configured to gather~~ gather information about visitors  
9 ~~from said provided by a visitor using at least one input device from said one or more of a~~  
10 ~~plurality of input devices from responses made by said visitors responsive~~ to prompts provided  
11 by said processor through said display; and wherein said processor is configured to substantially  
12 contemporaneously ~~gathers~~ gather information about said ~~visitors from said~~ visitor using at least  
13 one sensor from said one or more of a plurality of sensors; wherein said processor is configured  
14 to determine additional information about said visitor based upon said information about said  
15 visitor gathered from said at least one input device and said at least one sensor; wherein said  
16 processor is configured to communicate a portion of the information about said visitor gathered  
17 from said at least one input device and said at least one sensor and a portion of said additional  
18 information to a user; and wherein said processor stores is configured to store said information  
19 about visitors said visitor gathered from said at least one input device and said at least one sensor  
20 into said storage.

1 2. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein said information  
2 about said ~~visitors~~ visitor is gathered ~~from~~ using said at least one sensor of a plurality of sensors  
3 without said visitor being aware of said gathering.

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1 3. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of claim 1, further comprising a  
2 ~~music playing an audio output device, wherein said processor controls playing of music~~  
3 configured to output audio information to said visitors visitor, said audio information determined  
4 based upon said information about said visitor gathered from said at least one input device and  
5 said at least one sensor.

1 4. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein said information  
2 gathered about said visitor comprises visitors is at least one of information about a name of said  
3 visitor, an organization represented by a said visitor, a purpose of a visit, a date of a visit, a time  
4 of a visit, a person to be visited, and an identity of a group of visitors visiting together.

1 5. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein ~~said processor~~  
2 ~~displays on said display is configured to display to said visitor~~ at least one of a greeting, a slide  
3 show of product images, advertising, stock values, daily cartoons, and news.

1 6. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of claim 1, further comprising a  
2 scanner that is configured to scan ~~sees~~ at least one of a first side and a second side of a business  
3 card having printing on at least one of said first side and said second side; and wherein,  
4 responsive to detecting text on said at least one of said first side and said second side, said  
5 processor processes said text in accordance with a language of said text.

1 7. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of claim 1, further comprising a  
2 microphone, wherein said microphone provides input of speech of said ~~visitors~~ visitor.

1 8. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of claim 1, further comprising a video  
2 camera, ~~wherein said video camera provides input of~~ configured to capture an image ~~images of~~  
3 ~~said visitors~~ visitor.

1 9. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of claim 1, further comprising a  
2 speaker, wherein said information gathered about said visitor comprises information indicating a

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3 person to be visited and wherein said speaker is configured to output provides directions to said  
4 visitor reach said person to be visited.

1 10. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of claim 1, further comprising ~~at least~~  
2 ~~one of a plurality of visitor wand configured to record wands, said visitor wands recording~~  
3 ~~experiences of said visitors~~ visitor.

1 11. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of claim 1, ~~further comprising~~  
2 ~~biometric sensors, said biometric sensors recording wherein the one or more sensors include a~~  
3 ~~biometric sensor configured to gather~~ biometric information about said visitor.

1 12. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of claim 1, further comprising a  
2 ~~handwriting tablet, said handwriting tablet providing~~ configured to provide a sample of  
3 ~~handwriting of said visitors~~ visitor.

1 13. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of claim 1, ~~further comprising a~~  
2 ~~security sensors, said security sensors providing wherein said one or more sensors include a~~  
3 ~~security sensor configured to provide~~ information about potential threats.

1 14. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of claim 1, further comprising a  
2 ~~telephone interface, said telephone interface providing~~ configured to communicate a telephone  
3 ~~message to a person to be visited that said visitors have~~ visitor has arrived.

1 15. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of claim 1, ~~further comprising a web~~  
2 ~~interface, said web interface providing a readily accessible source of information gathered about~~  
3 ~~said visitors wherein said processor is configured to determine said additional information about~~  
4 ~~said visitor using a web interface.~~

1 16. (Currently Amended) A method for collecting information about visitors,  
2 said method comprising:  
3 gathering information about ~~said visitors~~ a visitor in an interactive session with an  
4 automated kiosk;

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5 placing said information into a format in which said information may be stored;  
6 storing said information for retrieval; and  
7 based upon said gathered information about said visitor, automatically obtaining  
8 additional information about said visitor from at least one of a plurality of one or more sources;  
9 and  
10 communicating at least a portion of said gathered information and at least a  
11 portion of said additional information to a user.

1 17. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 16, wherein gathering  
2 information about said ~~visitors~~ visitor at said automated kiosk comprises obtaining information  
3 from said visitor using a process of which said visitor is aware (~~conscience capture~~) and obtaining  
4 information about said visitor using a process of which said visitor is not aware (~~unconscience~~  
5 ~~capture~~).

1 18. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 16, further comprising  
2 determining a person to be visited by said visitor based upon said information gathered about  
3 said user and wherein communicating said portion of said gathered information and said portion  
4 of said additional information to said user comprises communicating said portions to said person  
5 to be visited.

6 ~~providing said information about said visitor and said information gathered at said~~  
7 ~~kiosk to at least one of a plurality of other users of said information.~~

1 19. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 16, wherein obtaining said  
2 additional information about said visitor from a plurality of sources comprises at least one of  
3 performing a search on the Internet, searching a publicly available database, searching a database  
4 of visitor information obtained from said automated kiosk, and searching a local document  
5 database.

1 20 - 23. (Canceled)

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24. (Currently Amended) A computer programming product for collecting  
information about visitors, said computer programming product comprising:  
code for gathering information about ~~said visitors~~ a visitor in an interactive  
session with an automated kiosk;  
code for placing said information into a format in which said information may be  
stored;  
code for storing said information for retrieval;  
code for obtaining, based upon said gathered information about said visitor,  
additional information about said visitor from at least one of a plurality of one or more sources;  
code for providing said additional information about said visitor and said  
information about said visitor gathered at said kiosk to ~~persons~~ a person interested in said  
information; and  
a computer readable storage medium for holding the codes.

1 25-31. (Canceled)

SUB B37

32. (New) The apparatus of claim 1 wherein said user is a person that said  
visitor intends to visit.

33. (New) The apparatus of claim 1 wherein said additional information  
comprises information about said visitor's previous visit.

34. (New) The apparatus of claim 1 wherein said additional information  
comprises information about said visitor is determined from a database accessible to said  
processor and storing information about said visitor.

35. (New) An apparatus for collecting information about visitors, the  
apparatus comprising:  
one or more input devices;  
one or more sensors configured to capture information about a visitor;

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5 a data processing system; and  
6 a communication interface;  
7 wherein the data processing system is configured to receive information provided  
8 by the visitor using the one or more input devices and information about the visitor captured by  
9 the one or more sensors;

10 wherein the data processing system is configured to determine additional  
11 information about the visitor based upon the information provided by the visitor using the one or  
12 more input devices and the information about the visitor captured by the one or more sensors, the  
13 additional information distinct from the information provided by the visitor using the one or  
14 more input devices and the information about the visitor captured by the one or more sensors;

15 wherein the communication interface is configured to communicate the additional  
16 information to a person to be visited by the visitor.

A4  
1 36. (New) The apparatus of claim 35 wherein the data processing system is  
2 configured to generate a web page for the visitor, the web page storing information indicative of  
3 one or more persons visited by the visitor.

1 37. (New) The apparatus of claim 35 wherein the web page is accessible by  
2 the visitor.

1 38. (New) The apparatus of claim 35 further comprising an output device  
2 configured to output information to the visitor, the information output by the output device being  
3 customized for the visitor based upon the information provided by the visitor using the one or  
4 more input devices, the information about the visitor captured by the one or more sensors, and  
5 the additional information.